

REMARKS

Favorable and prompt allowance of the pending claims in the application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the specification

The specification is amended as presented in the AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION.

First, the specification at page 8, lines 15-17, is amended by the removal of "w" in reference to Fig. 2. As originally stated, the specification indicates that the wound dressing is intended to be placed against a wound bed. Other drawing figures, such as Figs. 5-9 exemplify the wound dressing placed over a wound bed. There is no need to identify a wound bed in Fig. 2 since the wound dressing is readily understood in connection with other drawings showing a wound bed w.

Further, the specification is amended on page 12 to provide a brief description on Fig. 12. Support for this description is found in originally-filed Fig. 12, and the specification on page 6, lines 4-10. No new matter is considered to be entered into the application by way of this amendment.

Next, the specification is amended to correctly denote the projection elements with reference numeral "57" instead of "56."

In certain instances, reference numeral "43" now reads "47."

Lastly, reference to "the needles," has been replaced with the consistent usage of the term "the projection elements."

Entry of the amendment to the specification is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

2. In the claims

In the AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS, claim 1 is amended with the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Claim 2 is now cancelled.

New claim 15 corresponds to the combination of subject matter of claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of claim 5. New claims 16-23 correspond to originally-filed claims 6-11, 13 and 14, respectively. Of note, new claims 18 and 19, which correspond to originally-filed claims 8 and 9, now depend from the subject matter of claim 15 which renders the objection to the claims moot.

New claim 24 corresponds to the combination of subject matter of claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of claim 12. In other words, claim 24 recites the step of sealing peripheral edges of the absorbent core with the border portion of the backing layer.

The applicant believes that the claims are now in good order for allowance. Thus, entry and allowance of the amendment to the claims is respectfully requested.

3. Conclusion

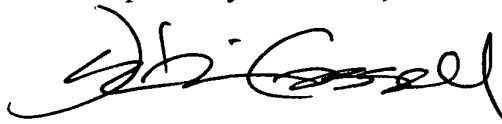
As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicants' attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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